

Members

Sen. Brandt Hershman Chairperson
Sen. Vi Simpson
Rep. Tim Brown
Rep. Vanessa Summers



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL EVALUATION OVERSIGHT POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE

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MEETING MINUTES¹

Meeting Date: May 22, 2012
Meeting Time: 10:30 A.M.
Meeting Place: State House, 200 W. Washington St., 431
Meeting City: Indianapolis, Indiana
Meeting Number: 1

Members Present: Sen. Brandt Hershman, Chairperson, Rep. Tim Brown
Rep. Vanessa Summers.

Members Absent: Sen. Vi Simpson.

Call to Order Sen. Brandt Hershman, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:40 am, and introduced the subcommittee members. Sen. Hershman called on Ms. Karen Firestone, LSA, to update the subcommittee on the evaluation project concerning interim committees being prepared by LSA under the direction of the subcommittee.

Interim Committees Evaluation

Ms. Firestone indicated that the evaluation report was complete and would be published in June 2012. She gave an overview of the report, including the information LSA had collected on committees in prior interim sessions, the method LSA used to simulate committees organized by topical area, and the estimated cost information.

Rep. Vanessa Summers indicated that some specialized committees may be necessary, using as an example the Autism Committee. She said that the increase in autism in the population made it important to have a committee look at the issues for people and families affected by autism. She said that sharing the agenda of another larger committee would not put the needed focus on the issue.

¹ These minutes, exhibits, and other materials referenced in the minutes can be viewed electronically at <http://www.in.gov/legislative>. Hard copies can be obtained in the Legislative Information Center in Room 230 of the State House in Indianapolis, Indiana. Requests for hard copies may be mailed to the Legislative Information Center, Legislative Services Agency, West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2789. A fee of \$0.15 per page and mailing costs will be charged for hard copies.

Healthy Indiana Plan

With no other comments, Sen. Hershman asked Ms. Firestone to review a report on Cigarette Tax Dollars in the Healthy Indiana Plan, prepared in response to a request from Rep. Patrick Bauer at a previous subcommittee meeting. LSA used data in the State Auditor's system and found a fund balance of \$301.9 M at the end of FY 2011. The fiscal information was then reformatted into calendar year data to match a report issued by FSSA. A difference of \$14.1 M at the end of CY 2011 was found between the State Auditor's system and the FSSA data. The cause of this difference was attributed to accounting event recording differences.

Assigning a New Program Evaluation Topic

Sen. Hershman asked the subcommittee for suggestions about a new topic for program evaluation. He suggested that transportation may be good area to review, with continuing infrastructure decline and challenges with needs and funding. Rep. Tim Brown indicated that he had received questions about funding for locals. He discussed that the gas tax goes to fund other parts of state government and that locals want it all used for infrastructure. Sen. Hershman then asked the subcommittee if they should recommend to the full Legislative Council that the next assigned topic concern transportation. The committee gave consent.

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 am.